

Christopher bumped his head on the door. The others thought Mrs. I. had done this to him, and were very angry, saying that she was 'horrid * and 'beastly', and 'we shan't come to tea with you any more'. Priscilla said 'Let's be rude to her/ and made threatening faces at her. When presently they understood that she had not done it to Christopher, they calmed down and were friendly." Here Dan and Priscilla had been actively hostile to a younger child, and Mrs. I., had interfered. Christopher then bumps his own head—and immediately Dan and Priscilla charge Mrs. I. with having bumped him, and are overcome with righteous indignation about it. This would be less surprising had the correctional methods of the school been more severe—had Mrs. I. been accustomed to whipping the children, for instance. But since she had never done so (although it is true she held them firmly enough when preventing them from attacking Phineas) the accusation can only be understood as a projection of their own hostility and guilt. Mrs. I. became the cruel, unkind one to little children, they the cherishers and defenders. Thus they felt justified (as their tones and gestures demonstrated) in calling her "beastly" and threatening that they would never "come to tea with you any more". Here again we touch upon the problem of projected *guilt* as a factor in aggression.

One further point must be made with regard to group hostility to adults. Once the values of an alliance with other children against adults have been established in the child's mind (and of course they may be momentarily felt even by younger children who have playmates or brothers and sisters), it is not necessary for the parents or other adults to be actually present for the children to feel themselves joined against the

grown-ups. They may enjoy the feeling of oneness and the delights of conspiracy with other children against a *remembered* or imagined grown-up enemy. It is the emotions that bind, and they may be activated by phantasy. Indeed, phantasy as well as reality is always involved. And even the child who has never played with others, never entered into real alliance with them, will have his *phantasies* of alliance and conspiracy. But they will not advance his development, so long as they are not translated into real living. Only the actual experience of fellowship with other children, whether for positive or for negative aims, will carry him through and